

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **SB 1123 - HB 1724**

March 23, 2005

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Abolishes the death penalty; all persons sentenced to death shall have sentences commuted to life without parole.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**


#### **Decrease State Expenditures – Net Impact – Not Significant**

##### Assumptions:

- Decrease in state expenditures from the Indigent Defense Fund of \$3,269,900 annually for attorneys, expert witnesses, and investigators for trials and appeals of capital cases.
- Increase in state expenditures if time incarcerated for a sentence of life imprisonment or sentence of life without parole is a longer period of incarceration than the period of incarceration while appeal process takes place for a death sentence. For information purposes, assume an additional 10 years incarceration at a cost of \$176,000 for one person that would have been executed every 30 years. There are currently 100 persons on death row.
- Decrease in state expenditures of \$1,186,400 for the Office of Post Conviction Defender that can be abolished.
- Decrease in state expenditures, estimated to exceed \$100,000, for the Office of the Attorney General for death penalty appeals.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director